



A learning and caring community
where individuals are valued



THE SHEILING SPECIAL EDUCATION TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered company number: 08116370 (England and Wales)

Registered charity number: 1149264

Principle address and Registered Office:

The Shelling Special Education Trust
Horton Road
Ashley, Ringwood
Hampshire
BH24 2EB

Trustees

Mr J Freeman
Mr N Johnson
Mr J Morris (resigned 07.07.2023)
Mrs M Rigg (resigned 12.03.2023)
Mr J Pyzer
Mrs J Kenward
Mr D Keeton
Mrs J Dampney
Mrs A Copp
Mr D Lincoln (appointed 05.09.2023)
Mrs V North (appointed 16.03.2023)

Auditors

Ward Goodman
Registered Auditor
4 Cedar Park, Cobham Road
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne, Dorset
BH21 7SF

Solicitors

Wilsons
Alexandra House
St John's Street
Salisbury
SP1 2SB

Senior Management Team

Corine van Barneveld, Principal
Andy Walters, Head of School
Mike Gamble, Head of College
Katy Kerr, Head of Finance & Premises
Susan Harvey, Head of Residential Services (resigned 26.05.2023)
Katie Francis, Head of Health & Therapies
Heidi Hom Rasmussen, Head of Residential Services (appointed 01.06.2023)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (YEAR ENDED 31/08/23)

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

The former Trust, the Sheiling School was established in 1951. The current charity, The Sheiling Special Education Trust, commenced its activities on 1 September 2012 when provision was widened to include further education at the Sheiling College.

The legal and administrative information set out on page 2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities and are satisfied that The Sheiling Special Education Trust's activities provide public benefit.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVES

The Sheiling Special Education Trust is an Independent Special School, which is registered as a Children's Home and an Independent Specialist College. It also provides a supported living service. It specialises in severe and moderate learning difficulties, autistic spectrum conditions and communication difficulties. Its objectives are as follows:

- To provide a learning, caring environment where the educational, physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs of the individual student and resident are valued and met.
- To promote a nurturing culture where each student and resident receives the support, guidance and care relevant to their individual needs.
- To promote positive approaches to behaviour and individual sensory and therapeutic needs.
- To support students and residents to develop functional skills and independence which can then be transferred to the wider community.
- To offer students and residents a foundation for developing their confidence and their sense of belonging and achievement.
- To offer clear rhythms and routines to promote a healthy lifestyle which includes good eating and sleeping habits and an active physical and social lifestyle.

ACTIVITIES

Education Provision

An individual approach to education and residential provision is offered to both School and College students including:

- Day placements – students attend from 9am to 4pm
- Weekly boarders – students attend from Monday morning to Friday afternoon.
- Termly boarders – students attend for the full 38-week term, including weekends.

Education provided ensures the national curriculum is followed and allows for a broad and balanced program which includes English, Maths, Science, ICT, Personal, Health, Social Education and Citizenship (PHSE&C), Art and PE. Horticulture, craft workshops including estate work, garden work, weaving and candle making are all offered ensuring the curriculum extends beyond lessons into life within the houses, enabling learning in school and college to be supported outside of the classroom.

The 45-acre site with grassy open areas and woodland mean that learning outside the classroom is an integral part of the curriculum and it also benefits from an on-site swimming pool, gym and 143 capacity hall with stage. Neighbouring the site is Moors Valley Country Park making it great location for walking and cycling. Ringwood is a short walk away and the beaches of Bournemouth, Boscombe, Southbourne and Mudeford are all within easy reach. This helps ensure students benefit from many different on-site and off-site activities and outings.

The school offers the nationally recognised ASDAN qualifications and the college offers the Ascentis Entry-1 Personal Progress & the OCR Life & Living Skills Accredited learning course.

Targeted therapeutic intervention is highly effective and promoted throughout the school and college with an extensive range of therapies including speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, music therapy, massage therapy, art therapy, eurythmy therapy and colour light therapy.

The residential students live on site in large, family-style houses of which there is one for the school age students and two for college students and a fourth available for a mix of upper school and college students. The houses act as extended family groups with each house sharing meals, including a freshly cooked midday meal. Everyone is expected to contribute to the running of the house, for example the setting of tables, taking out the compost and helping with the washing up. Each house functions as an autonomous group under the supervision of a dedicated House Manager. Each student is accommodated in a single room and allocated to a house according to their need, with a mix of gender and ages, carefully taking into account all issues regarding safeguarding. The Managers of the different houses work together regularly to assure outcomes for all students.

Where appropriate students have an opportunity for work experience placements in the local community with local businesses and organisations along with supported attendance for specific courses in local colleges.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Sheiling Special Education Trust strives to attain the highest standards regarding the aims and objectives, with a view to providing for the charity's beneficiaries.

These aims are:

- To maximise opportunities in school, college, supported living and beyond to support our students and residents in gaining knowledge, acquiring skills, and developing their personal qualities and confidence.
- To provide a safe, inclusive, and uplifting environment which meets the needs of the whole person.
- To maximise an inclusive environment to enable each student and resident to discover and realise their full potential.
- To promote communication and social skills which support making of relevant choices.



EASTER FUN!

Achievement and Performance

Section 172(1) statement

Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 requires the directors to act in the way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the charity to achieve its charitable purposes. The Act states that in doing so, the directors should have regard, amongst other matters, to:

The likely consequence of any decision in the long term: We make all key decision in the context of our medium term strategic plans and budgets, including our capital programmes. This strategy is focussed on improving outcomes for our students and is regularly reviewed.

The interests of the company's employees: Our employees are central to our capacity to deliver high quality learning and care to our students and their welfare is a key organisational priority. We invest in high levels of training and support including a 9 day induction programme and access to a range of well-being services (counselling, yoga sessions, etc).

The need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers, and others: Our relationships with partners and suppliers are key to our effectiveness. We have long term relationships with small local businesses and foster positive relationships with our provider Local Authorities.

The impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment: We recognise our responsibility to care for the environment and aim to minimise our environmental impact in all our activities. We actively manage our 40 acre site and maintain areas of habitat to support wildlife and have recently been awarded a bronze award by the Hedgehog Preservation Society. We encourage all staff and students to participate in initiatives to reduce environmental impacts including for example the promotion of recycling of waste and actions to maximise efficiency in energy consumption.

The desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct: Our reputation is fundamental to our future success. Our core values inform our recruitment initiatives and training for our employees to ensure that we maintain high standards.

The need to act fairly as between members of the company: We continue to work towards a transparent culture providing staff with regular updates through face to face briefings, newsletters and direct communications from the Principal. We aim to be a fully inclusive organisation and we will not unfairly discriminate against our students, staff or any other member of our community

Strategic Report

Achievement and performance

Key achievements and notable performance during the period included the following:

School

- School numbers have increased with time to 37 students at the beginning of 2022-23. The overall increase is due to additional day placements. All school leavers progressed onto the college.
- Academic achievement across the school remains strong, with students making excellent progress.
- Development and updates to the curriculum has taken place this year to ensure it meets the needs of the widening range of abilities including those with complex sensory needs.
- Better recognition and achievement of attainment for school students through more accurate assessment, target setting, planning and ongoing monitoring has been implemented.

College

- Each student's co-created study programme forms their bespoke curriculum, this degree of person-centred focus enables stretching and meaningful outcomes for our students both at college and thereafter. Last year we hosted a very successful achievement ceremony for all students and their families in Tobias Hall for the first time since the pandemic; it was a packed and emotional event giving our leavers a great send off.
- Community integration work is integral to all study programmes. This includes students working closely with two local railway stations to maintain flower beds and general upkeep of the station, as well as a recent very successful Duke of Edinburgh expedition.
- Last academic year saw a record number of leavers from college and all leavers reached suitable destinations in terms of living and daytime activities from volunteer work to structured recreational activities.
- This year college is holding parent training on Deputyship concurrently with our second Transition Event bringing together students, families and providers.

Other

- Safeguarding is central to everything we do as an organisation. All Trustees, staff and vocational workers continue to be trained in safeguarding and abuse prevention, recognition and reporting. This is backed up by a close relationship with the local children and adult safeguarding teams.
- Our strong positive behaviour support team, linking in with Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy, provides excellent support to staff ensuring that behaviours which challenge are minimised.
- Opportunities are available for staff to develop their skills through liaison with other schools and colleges to share good practice along with a broad range of in-house staff training.
- The HR department continues to strengthen employment protocols and processes to ensure robust systems for Safer Recruitment of staff.
- Further development of the Staff Recruitment and Retention Strategy has been undertaken focussing on terms and conditions, working patterns, benefits, wellbeing and recruitment advertising.
- The fee model has continued to be developed to help ensure a robust system for ensuring the fees are linked to costs incurred.
- Robust induction and training programmes have been strengthened for all new and existing staff throughout the year.
- Mandatory INSET days continued to be developed and are well attended. This is part of an ongoing development of staff via extensive training both in-house and via external trainers.
- Throughout the year committee and working group meetings take place for Safeguarding, Finance, Teaching and Learning and Equality, Diversity & Inclusion and Parent Forum.
- Regular review and updating of policies by the Senior Management Team, including Trustee involvement, continues to ensure policies and procedures remain robust.

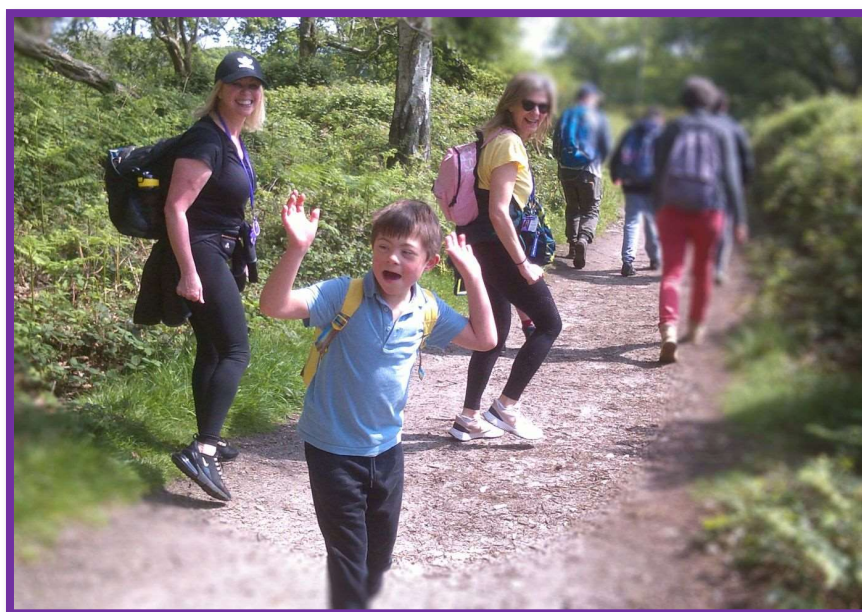
QUALITY ASSURANCE

- The Ofsted Care inspection for our Residential Special School provision took place in June 2023 and was graded 'Outstanding'.
- A school Ofsted inspection took place in November 2021 and was graded 'Good' with outstanding Behaviour and Attitudes and Personal Development.
- A Care Quality Commission inspection occurred in March 2019 regarding the college residential provision and was graded 'Good'.
- A college Ofsted inspection took place in February 2018 and was graded 'Good'.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Various projects were undertaken during the period to both maintain and develop the site for school and college provision. Larger projects and site development are being driven by the 5 year Property Strategy (2020 – 2023) document previously approved by the Board. Fundraising is carried out for the benefit of capital projects with funds being requested from external trusts, charities and companies. Although works had to pause during the COVID-19 lockdown. Significant projects included the following:

- Albion Building Refurbishment incl. Windows £37k
- Sheiling House Windows £12k.
- Outdoor Play Equipment £21.5k
- Martin & Feirefis Refurbishment £33k
- Site wide external lighting installed £16K
- Various bedrooms and communal rooms redecorated in all houses.
- Capital spend in the year (including the above) totalled £135K



A LOVELY DAY TRIP TO ARNE NATURE RESERVE

FINANCIAL POSITION & REVIEW

The financial performance for the year is summarised below:

	2023		2022	
	Total - £'000	Excluding capital grants £'000	Total - £'000	Excluding capital grants £'000
Total Income	8,811	8,757	8,908	8,829
Total Expenditure	8,061	8,061	7,752	7,752
Net Income	750	696	1,156	1,077

Income has decreased by £97K in total compared with the previous year (1% decrease). Our student numbers increased to 76 from 72 in the prior year. The decrease in income is due to a change in the mix of our students' packages, with a (planned) lower proportion of students on residential placements. The decrease in capital grants and donations is due to funding some of our capital projects from our reserves.

The main source of income are student fees received from Local Authorities with an element received directly from the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for College students - these fees equated to 100% (2022: 100%) of total income excluding capital funding. Overall student numbers increased on prior year to 76 (2022: 72) with school numbers increasing from 33 to 37 (9% increase), college numbers remained consistent at 39.

The largest expenditure heading continues to be staffing £6.7M (2022: £6.6M) which equates to 83% of expenditure (2022: 76%). In relation to income, staff costs represent 76% (2022: 74%) of total income excluding capital grants and donations.

Tangible fixed asset additions in the year totalled £405K which related largely to the refurbishment of building facilities & IT upgrades across the site. The net book value of fixed assets increased from £6.78M to £6.93M (2% increase) at the end of the accounting period.

The 'Cash at bank and in hand' figure increased during the year, largely due to tighter credit control measures which increased the balance from £5.33M at the start of the year to £6.01M as at 31st August 2023. Similarly, the net current assets also increased from £5.02M to £5.62M over the same period.

Total reserves have increased to £12.5M from £11.8M during the year with a £NIL balance (2022: £NIL) on restricted funds, previously being restricted in relation to ESFA and other capital monies received for capital projects that have since been completed.

RISKS & UNCERTAINTIES

A risk register is maintained to identify risks, assess their likelihood of occurring and quantify the potential impact. Outlined below is a description of the key principal risk factors which may affect the Charity. Other factors besides funding sources may also adversely affect the Charity and are detailed within the risk register itself.

PRINCIPAL FUNDING SOURCES

The Charity is, in effect, solely reliant on continued government funding, whether this comes directly to us from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) or via individual Local Authorities. In 2022/23 100% (2021/22 100%) of revenue was ultimately publicly funded. There can be no assurance that central government and Local Authority policy and practice, will continue at the same levels or on the same terms. Whilst the current government continues its plans to address the issue of public sector debt this will have a significant impact on available funding within the sector and how the limited funding is distributed to providers.

The risk is mitigated in a number of ways including:

- Ensuring we deliver high quality care and education in order to remain a preferred provider for Local Authorities whilst providing 'value for money' to students and Local Authorities.
- Focus and investment placed on maintaining and managing key relationships with various funding bodies and local authorities.
- Regular dialogue with ESFA, Local Authorities, NASS, NATSPEC and other networking partnerships.
- Tight control over staff and non-pay costs.
- Regular review of our fee structure to ensure our fees remain competitive whilst allowing us to provide the necessary high quality care and education. Inclusion, where appropriate, on the various Local Authority Provider Frameworks.

COVID-19

The impact of the pandemic has continued to be felt, especially during the autumn/winter months where cases are higher. We have remained consistent in our offer despite significant levels of absence due to Covid-19.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees monitor and review the level of reserves held by the charity in line with the guidance set out by the Charity Commission and this also forms the basis of our own Reserves Policy document which is reviewed every two years. The Trustees consider that the aim should be to build up the free reserves of the charity, represented by working capital, to equate between two to four months' expenditure. This has been built into the three-year financial plan which will be achieved via control of our future surplus and capital investment decisions. During the course of the past two financial years, we have built up sufficient reserves to enable us to fund capital projects and progress with development of the site to align with our new strategic plans. We are therefore holding reserves to fund this capital programme. In addition, whilst the reserves levels currently sit above our suggested policy levels, Trustees consider this prudent given the significant risks posed by the current economic climate.

FUTURE PLANS

- Student placements for School (37) and College (34) are as expected going into 2023/2024 with the potential for further placements to be offered later in the year.
- Close liaison and working with Local Authority commissioners to ensure placements for students whose needs can be best met by an environment such as The Sheiling Ringwood.
- Close liaison with funding bodies and Local Authorities to ensure we can plan and react to national or local changes in funding, policies or procedures.
- Continue to ensure close working between all departments of The Sheiling Special Education Trust.
- Continue to improve links with other schools and colleges to work collaboratively with regards to positive behaviour support and data collection.
- Continue to improve close links with those who can provide work experience and work placements within the local area.
- Continue to strengthen the ethos of the Sheiling via staff training sessions.
- Continued tight financial control over staff and non-pay costs to ensure spending is kept within budgets.
- To keep under review the Terms and Conditions of staff including review of pay scales, pension review as well as holiday entitlements.
- Continue to find ways to recruit adequate support staff via recruitment strategy and thus minimising the use of agency staff.
- Continue to appoint new Trustees, with relevant experience, to support all areas of education, care and administration.
- Continue to develop and improve our estate, including site security.
- Continue to implement the Property Strategy.
- National and local marketing drive to improve awareness of The Sheiling Special Education Trust.

OVERVIEW

- Overall student numbers remained stable under the new registration; however, due to staffing constraints the proportion of residential places offered was lower. It is intended for the proportion of residential students to increase back to around 40% of overall student numbers subject to appropriate staffing being available.
- Recruitment and retention of staff remains the greatest operational and strategic challenge. The focus of Trustees continues to be the development of care and education provided through monitoring, planning and challenge to help maintain and drive improvements across all areas of provision.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The company was established on 22 June 2012 under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

Decision making

The Board of Trustees meets at least 4 times a year. Regular meetings are held and minutes taken with Trustees chairing committees for Finance and Safeguarding. In addition there are working groups for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Teaching and Learning and Parent Forum.

Induction and training of new trustees

Trustees are selected across a broad range of professions to ensure a wealth of experience. The current Board of Trustees include experience within Business, SEN Schools/Colleges, Care, Finance, Personal Relations/Marketing.

Trustees may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Trustee, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Trustee. All Trustees are suitably assessed through DBS and, if appointed, shall hold office for 3 years but are eligible for reappointment at the end of that period. All trustees write a pen portrait as part of their selection process which helps identify suitability and any potential conflicts of interest. Trustees are expected to undertake induction training within their first three months in role although mandatory safeguarding training (covering Child Protection and Adults at Risk training) must be attended within one month of appointment. Bespoke training is also arranged, as required, and can be informed by analysis of the Trustees Skills Audit, which is undertaken periodically. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the charity in the event of winding up.

Charity Governance Code

Trustees fully understand the importance of good governance and see it as vital to the success of the organisation. Trustees have all seen the Charity Governance Code and are aware of the 7 sections contained within it including Organisational Purpose, Leadership, Integrity, Decision Making, Risk & Control, Board effectiveness, Diversity and Openness and accountability.

Trustees see the Code as a tool which will be used to help drive continuous improvement for good governance.

Key management remuneration

The Trustees consider the Board of Trustees, Principal, Head of School, Head of College, Head of Residential Services, Head of Finance and Premises and the Head of Health & Therapies to comprise the key management personnel of the charity as listed on page 9. All members of the Board of Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no financial benefits from the charity. Remuneration of key management personnel during the year, other than the Trustees, totalled £506,082 (2022: £486,885) for

the year with employer pension contributions totalling £65,715 (2022: £62,776). Key management personnel (excluding Trustees) are referred to as the Senior Management Team (SMT). A Pay & Remuneration Policy, approved by the full Board, is used by Trustees to help determine pay for the SMT which is based around benchmarking data for the sector whilst also considering affordability.

Related parties

The charity continues to maintain informal links with The Lantern Community, The Ringwood Waldorf School and Sturts Farm. The charity devolved fully from The Sheiling Trust on 13 July 2015.

Risk management

The charity continues to develop and embed a system of internal control, including financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the charity's assets and reputation. A Risk Register is available which identifies specific risks and assesses their likelihood of occurring and potential impact regarding financial, operational and reputational areas. Risks are scored using a consistent scoring methodology and are regularly reviewed by the Senior Management Team and Trustees. The Risk Register identifies the controls in place to help mitigate risks to an acceptable level.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Sheiling Special Education Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Ward Goodman, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors,
on08/12/2023..... and signed on the board's behalf by:



Mr N K Johnson - Trustee

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Sheiling Special Education Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2023 on pages eighteen to thirty-one. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees


As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities set out on page thirteen, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.



Mr I M Redd BSc FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Ward Goodman Audit Services Ltd
4 Cedar Park
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 7SF

Date: *5 December 2023*

**Statement of Financial Activities
August 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	54,150	-	54,150	77,831
Other trading activities	4	8,657,113	-	8,657,113	8,809,447
Investment income	5	98,121	-	98,121	19,234
Other income		1,134	-	1,134	1,243
Total		8,810,518	-	8,810,518	8,907,755
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	6				
Education		8,060,591	-	8,060,591	7,752,409
NET INCOME		749,927	-	749,927	1,155,346
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		11,804,571	-	11,804,571	10,649,225
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		12,554,498	-	12,554,498	11,804,571

Balance Sheet
31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	6,933,407	-	6,933,407	6,780,169
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	2,548,987	-	2,548,987	2,657,592
Cash at bank and in hand		6,014,878	-	6,014,878	5,337,945
		<u>8,563,865</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,563,865</u>	<u>7,995,537</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,942,774)	-	(2,942,774)	(2,971,135)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>5,621,091</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,621,091</u>	<u>5,024,402</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>12,554,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,554,498</u>	<u>11,804,571</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>12,554,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,554,498</u>	<u>11,804,571</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				12,554,498	11,804,571
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>12,554,498</u>	<u>11,804,571</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 08/12/2023
and were signed on its behalf by:


Mr N K Johnson - Trustee


Mr J Freeman - Trustee

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	1,042,058	2,036,194
Interest paid		-	(159)
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>1,042,058</u>	<u>2,036,035</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(405,313)	(406,130)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		1,750	1,600
Interest received		38,438	2,346
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(365,125)</u>	<u>(402,184)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments in year		-	(67,916)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(67,916)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>676,933</u>	<u>1,565,935</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>5,337,945</u>	<u>3,772,010</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>6,014,878</u></u>	<u><u>5,337,945</u></u>

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	749,927	1,155,346
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	251,461	167,889
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(1,134)	(1,243)
Interest received	(38,438)	(2,346)
Interest paid	-	159
Decrease in debtors	108,605	876,966
Decrease in creditors	(28,363)	(160,577)
Net cash provided by operations	<u>1,042,058</u>	<u>2,036,194</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.9.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>5,337,945</u>	<u>676,933</u>	<u>6,014,878</u>
	<u>5,337,945</u>	<u>676,933</u>	<u>6,014,878</u>
Total	<u>5,337,945</u>	<u>676,933</u>	<u>6,014,878</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1. LEGAL FORM

The Sheiling Special Education Trust is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is noted on page 10.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, which are described below, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

These estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The following are areas that are considered to be key sources of estimation uncertainty, there are no significant judgements to note.

The economic useful life of tangible fixed assets and the expected residual value on future disposal is estimated by the Trustees based on their knowledge and experience.

Income and debtors

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Where fees are raised in advance, the income is deferred until the period to which it relates. These deferred amounts are shown on the balance sheet within creditor: amounts falling due within one year.

Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted capital fund.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property - 1% on cost

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Plant and machinery	- 20% on reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension commitments

The charity operates two pension schemes. A defined contribution scheme in accordance with National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) and a defined benefit scheme in relation to the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS).

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of the pensions over employees' working lives with the charity in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. Contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations. The TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme.

Contributions payable to these schemes are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	6,962	26,256
Grants	47,188	51,575
	<u>54,150</u>	<u>77,831</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
ESFA capital grant	47,188	31,825
Talbot Village Trust	-	15,000
SEND Partnership	-	2,500
Nineveh Trust	-	2,000
The Shelling Ringwood College	-	250
	<u>47,188</u>	<u>51,575</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising events	1,726	1,010
Fees	8,616,683	8,741,504
Other	38,704	66,933
	<u>8,657,113</u>	<u>8,809,447</u>

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rents received	59,683	16,888
Deposit account interest	38,438	2,346
	<u>98,121</u>	<u>19,234</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Education	<u>7,905,070</u>	<u>155,521</u>	<u>8,060,591</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Education	<u>3,836</u>	<u>151,685</u>	<u>155,521</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	251,459	167,889
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	(1,134)	(1,243)
Auditors remuneration for audit services	<u>9,954</u>	<u>9,300</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2023 nor for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, one trustee was reimbursed travel expenses of £154 (2022: £nil).

10. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	5,797,228	5,793,200
Social security costs	494,044	465,837
Other pension costs	388,776	353,588
	<u>6,680,048</u>	<u>6,612,625</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Employees	<u>249</u>	<u>239</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023	2022
£60,001 - £70,000	5	3
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	-
	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

The senior management team received remuneration of £468,057 (2022: £486,885).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	31,006	46,825	77,831
Other trading activities	8,809,447	-	8,809,447
Investment income	19,234	-	19,234
Other income	1,243	-	1,243
Total	<u>8,860,930</u>	<u>46,825</u>	<u>8,907,755</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Education	7,752,409	-	7,752,409

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
NET INCOME	1,108,521	46,825	1,155,346
Transfers between funds	455,006	(455,006)	-
Net movement in funds	1,563,527	(408,181)	1,155,346
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	10,241,044	408,181	10,649,225
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	11,804,571	-	11,804,571

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £
COST			
At 1 September 2022	6,386,072	28,926	1,288,219
Additions	-	-	221,227
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	6,386,072	28,926	1,509,446
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 September 2022	361,439	17,118	582,583
Charge for year	46,061	2,361	162,533
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	407,500	19,479	745,116
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 August 2023	5,978,572	9,447	764,330
At 31 August 2022	6,024,633	11,808	705,636

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 September 2022	100,351	509,128	8,312,696
Additions	116,672	67,414	405,313
Disposals	(6,828)	-	(6,828)
At 31 August 2023	210,195	576,542	8,711,181
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 September 2022	83,475	487,912	1,532,527
Charge for year	17,998	22,506	251,459
Eliminated on disposal	(6,212)	-	(6,212)
At 31 August 2023	95,261	510,418	1,777,774
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 August 2023	114,934	66,124	6,933,407
At 31 August 2022	16,876	21,216	6,780,169

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	2,385,901	2,510,471
Other debtors	32,635	33,133
Prepayments and accrued income	130,451	113,988
	<u>2,548,987</u>	<u>2,657,592</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	274,874	148,025
Social security and other taxes	99,336	104,213
Other creditors	57,161	77,041
Accruals and deferred income	2,511,403	2,641,856
	<u>2,942,774</u>	<u>2,971,135</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	8,354	17,411
Between one and five years	22,973	31,327
	<u>31,327</u>	<u>48,738</u>

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	11,804,571	749,927	12,554,498
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>11,804,571</u>	<u>749,927</u>	<u>12,554,498</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	8,810,518	(8,060,591)	749,927
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>8,810,518</u>	<u>(8,060,591)</u>	<u>749,927</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.9.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	9,741,044	1,858,448	955,006	12,554,498
COVID-19 reponse	500,000	-	(500,000)	-
	<u>10,241,044</u>	<u>1,858,448</u>	<u>455,006</u>	<u>12,554,498</u>
Restricted funds				
ESFA capital funding	174,416	31,825	(206,241)	-
College double classroom	202,286	-	(202,286)	-
Other capital projects	31,479	-	(31,479)	-
Sensory Garden	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
	<u>408,181</u>	<u>46,825</u>	<u>(455,006)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,649,225</u>	<u>1,905,273</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,554,498</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	17,671,448	(15,813,000)	1,858,448
Restricted funds			
ESFA capital funding	31,825	-	31,825
Sensory Garden	15,000	-	15,000
	<u>46,825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,825</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>17,718,273</u>	<u>(15,813,000)</u>	<u>1,905,273</u>

Restricted funds

ESFA capital funding - funding to keep school buildings in good condition so students can learn in a safe and effective environment. Capital funding is allocated from the ESFA which is used to fund specific college capital projects.

College double classroom funding - A new double classroom was constructed in 2016/17 which was part-financed by grants received from 8 separate organisations. Funding went towards the cost of two new classrooms including furnishings and equipment.

Other capital projects funding - grants received from organisations towards the costs of smaller capital projects including mini-bus, college shelter, play equipment and hall chairs.

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Sensory garden - grants received to fund the sensory garden project at the Sheiling premises, this project has been delayed due to the pandemic but is now completed.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, The Sheiling Special Education Trust purchased items of £500 (2022: £2,500) from a supplier in which a trustee has controlling interest.

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	6,962	26,256
Grants	47,188	51,575
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	54,150	77,831
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	1,726	1,010
Fees	8,616,683	8,741,504
Other	38,704	66,933
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8,657,113	8,809,447
Investment income		
Rents received	59,683	16,888
Deposit account interest	38,438	2,346
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	98,121	19,234
Other income		
Gain on sale of tangible fixed assets	1,134	1,243
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources	8,810,518	8,907,755
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	5,797,228	5,793,200
Social security	494,044	465,837
Pensions	388,776	353,588
Advertising	5,951	7,231
Sundries	47,888	21,923
Teaching materials and equipment	179,434	140,294
Utilities and running costs	740,288	663,544
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	251,461	167,889
Bank loan interest	-	159
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,905,070	7,613,665
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	3,836	-

	2023 £	2022 £
Finance		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	151,685	138,744
Total resources expended	8,060,591	7,752,409
Net income	749,927	1,155,346



A learning and caring community
where individuals are valued



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